Revenue Commissioner.—The rates are fixed by the Survey Department in consideration of water supply, rainfall, soil, etc. If some specific instances of hardship should be brought to the notice of Government they will be redressed.

Mr. Narasimhachar.—We have brought several glaring instances of this and other difficulties of ryots also to the notice of Government many a time during the past three years and nothing has been done. We have submitted two reports about irrigation.

Dewan.—We shall make a note of the case and see where they are pending. The general principle is accepted and instructions will be given to the Survey Department.

SUBJECT No. 15.

Remissions.

Mr. S. R. Balakrishna Rao, Shimoga.

Mr. S. R. Balakrishna Rao.—Remissions may be given in every case where the holding yields no crop owing to the failure of rains.

Reply of Government.—This is under consideration. The Remission Committee has sent in a long report. It will be considered and final orders passed.

SUBJECT No. 16.

Contribution for the restoration of minor tanks.

Mr. G. Ramappa, Srinivaspur Taluk.

Mr. Ramappa.—A general ruling should be made that the ryots' contribution for restoration of minor tanks may be paid along with kandayam in five annual instalments.

Reply of Government.—Government have no objection to make a general rule to this effect for the next three years.

SUBJECT No. 17.

Abolition of irrigation cess; and annual maintenance of tanks and channels.

Messrs. H. Krishna Rao, Koppa Taluk; and Ramachandrappa, Kumsi Sub-Taluk.

Mr. H. Krishna Rao.—Orders may be passed not to collect irrigation cess on wet and garden lands on which crops are raised with the aid of rain water. In tanks and channels under which irrigation cess is collected, maintenance work may be done by Government.

Reply of Government.—This is an old subject. The matter is under consideration and orders will be passed in three months.

SUBJECT No. 18.

Supari cess.

Messrs. K. Chennakesavaiya, Tirthahalli Taluk; and Shama Rao, Shimoga Taluk.

Mr. K. Chennakesavaiya.—The supari cess may be used for finding a market for supari and facilitating its export.

Some of the members suggested the abolition of the cess.

Reply of Government.—Orders have issued sanctioning a deputation for finding markets. Suggestions may be made as to the utilisation of the supari cess for particular purposes. It is not possible to abolish the cess.

SUBJECT No. 19.

Village Improvement Scheme.

Messrs. D. S. Krishna Rao, Nelamangala Taluk; Vembraliah, Rame Gowda, Byregowda, Kolar Taluk; and Gurasiddappa, Jagalur Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—The rule *re* half-day labour may be passed into law.

Dewan.—The panchayats have the power to require a certain number of days' labour in the year or to levy a contribution instead.

Members.—But there are many villages which have no panchayat.

Dewan.—That is no difficulty. If you apply to the Deputy Commissioners, steps will be taken to constitute villages into panchayats.

SUBJECT No. 20.

Maintenance of Village Improvement works.

Mr. Ramanna, Srinivaspur Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—Provision should be made for the annual maintenance of Village Improvement works.

Reply of Government.—An order has issued.

SUBJECT No. 21.

Extension of village sites and places for manure pits.

Mr. K. Ramanuja Iyengar, Gubbi Taluk.

Mr. Ramanuja Iyengar.—Sites should be marked in each village for extensions. Lands should be acquired by Government for building model houses.

Dewan.—In some cases the extension of village sites is urgent and in others it is not so.

Mr. G. Narasimhachar.—Town planning must be done first and there should be separate places reserved for storing manure, etc. When lands have to be acquired, there have always been disputes, for the price paid in acquisition is always less than what the owner would get in the open market. Government should acquire the lands at prices offered by sowcars.

Mr. H. Krishnasastri.—The jamabandi officers should make it a point to ascertain whether there are any cases pending of lands required for building houses. In this way half the number of cases may be decided. A Committee was appointed to study this subject and submitted its report to Government.

Revenue Commissioner.—If delays are pointed out we will hurry up the cases.

Mr. Bhima Rao said that he had sent up many petitions. Rs. 320 was paid three years ago. Orders should issue as to the time within which acquisition should be completed.

Reply of Government.—A note will be made and necessary instructions to local officers will issue. If villagers agree, Government can acquire land easily. The urgency in each case may be brought to the notice of local authorities. Government will expedite special cases.

SUBJECT No. 22.

Speedy disposal of darkhasts.

(1) Mr. C. Rasool Khan Anjuman-E-Islamia, Chikmagalur.
(2) Messrs. Adivappa, Venkatagiriappa and Puttappa, Sagar Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—(1) At present applications for the grant of gomal lands for cultivation drag on for even 12 years. There is no hope of getting the land required within a reasonable time though the Government Order of October 1917 lays stress on immediate disposals. In the interests of agricultural development and the revenues of the State, a ruling may be made that such applications should be treated as granted if not disposed of within a fixed time, or the Deputy Commissioner may be authorised to grant such applications.